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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PPS

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #18

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A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

On Friday, 26 April, the third informal meeting of chiefs of language training for exchange of information was held at NSA, with representatives from Air Force, State, ICA, USIA, NSA, and CIA present. [REDACTED] Director of Training of NSA, greeted the members of the group and expressed his interest in the proceedings. [REDACTED] of NSA discussed the use of unusual language training techniques and [REDACTED] of NSA discussed the 26-week quasi-JOT program being developed at NSA.

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Some of the significant benefits which have already resulted from these meetings are:

(1) creation of an ad-hoc working group on language proficiency testing

(2) beginning of planning for a cooperative African language program

(3) comparison of contract rates of pay [REDACTED] in the interest of uniformity of practice.

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Exchange of information between members of the group has also resulted in, for example:

(1) consolidation of Air Force-State Finnish course

[REDACTED]

(4) plan for obtaining information on former Air Force personnel with intensive language training for possible employment by other agencies, including CIA JOT program

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(5) appointment for [REDACTED] to meet with [REDACTED] of NSA re-information on quasi-JOT program at NSA

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(6) special arrangements for NSA to meet CIA requirements for training in Amharic and Armenian, and arrangements for training in Vietnamese, Russian, Turkish, Arabic, Thai, advanced Chinese reading, reverse translation in Chinese, and Chinese grass writing.

It is hoped that the work of this group will continue to result in increasing mutual benefit to the agencies concerned re language training.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Post mortems on enrollment in the Free Europe course was held by [REDACTED] C/WE, and [REDACTED] PP. [REDACTED] gave positive assurance that WE would have both students and instructional assistance for an alternative course, on France, which LAS is considering offering instead of the Free Europe course next year. This would be an integrated area/language course similar to the one to be offered on Germany next fall. [REDACTED] added that the primary need in WE is for country specialization rather than a regional survey course, but that he would judge that IO would have students for the Free Europe course. [REDACTED] reported that IO was, in fact, "enthusiastic" about this course but "could not spare" any of its staff to attend.

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2. Sanitized copies of the area course schedule through next April have been circulated to our contacts in ten other IAC components, as agreed upon by the Area Advisory Committee.
3. Dr. Louis Leipole of Army Map Service gave his usual smooth survey of economic and military geography in the Free Europe course. Our I Building lecture room was filled to capacity by the attendance of ten Agency auditors.
4. [REDACTED] gave a special series of four briefings on the Middle East 22-26 April, to Mr. [REDACTED] Special Assistant in the Office of Communications, and to three members of his staff and their wives. This series was given at the request of Mr. [REDACTED] and consisted of four three-hour sessions devoted equally to lectures and films on the area.

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5. The services of Mr. [REDACTED] have been offered and accepted for the new off-duty language program in German. The first semester of the German program is scheduled to begin 20 May. The elementary course will consist of four semesters to be known as German 101, 102, 103, and 104. Interviewing of the prospective teachers for this program is proceeding.

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6. The six-week Regional Survey on East Asia given by [REDACTED] ended on 29 April, having had 17 students in regular attendance, 10 of whom were from the Agency. The student critiques indicated that the course was well received and considered to be most helpful. Several students took occasion to comment in person to the principal instructor on the extent to which they appreciated the course. A preliminary glance at the student papers appears to indicate a high degree of work performance.

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7. The four-week Regional Survey on Russia in Asia course, given by [REDACTED] ended on 25 April, with a total of 24 students completing the course, 22 of which were from the Agency. A preliminary glance at the critiques submitted by the students indicates that, whereas most students appreciated the course and felt that it was useful, a number of changes should be made if the course is to be presented again. Most students felt that (1) there should be fewer guest lecturers, (2) a tighter rein should be kept on the guest lecturer, and (3) more time should be allocated to the course. [REDACTED] feels that, as suggested by one of the better students, it would be advisable to offer two survey courses in the future, one on Soviet Central Asia and another on Siberia and the Far East. In general, however, the course was well received by the students.

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8. Five requests have been received for the Polish Seminar, to begin 2 May.

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9. The Danish Proficiency Test was given on 25 April for one person. Mr. [REDACTED] of RQM served on the oral panel.

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10. On 25 April, [REDACTED] went to Howard University to interview Mr. [REDACTED], as a prospective informant for that language.

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11. On 26 April, [REDACTED] went on TDY to New York City. There he visited a number of bookstores, especially Stechert's and Orientalia, to investigate available materials for foreign language study to be added to the LAS library.

12. On 29 April, [REDACTED] went over to Wake Hall to consult Messrs. Rudolph Berkhouse, E. Kenneth Karkher, Fred Carleton of the Personnel Research Branch, AGO, Department of the Army. There was a fruitful discussion of our respective testing programs and the possibilities for cooperation.

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13. On 30 April, [REDACTED] went to see Mr. [REDACTED] QAB/OP, to advise him on setting up the coding of languages.

14. Average number of students in formal, internal language training for the month of April was 177, studying the following languages:

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Arabic
Chinese
French
German
Greek
Japanese
Persian
Polish
Russian
Spanish
Turkish

171 individuals participated in the self-study program in the following languages:

Arabic
Chinese
Dutch
French
German
Greek
Hungarian
Italian
Japanese
Norwegian
Persian
Polish
Portuguese
Russian
Serbo-Croatian
Spanish
Swedish
Thai
Turkish
Urdu-Hindi

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